



Air Managers Committee/State Caucus

Regional Haze/WRAP Activity Update March, 2005

WRAP Letter to EPA on readiness to work with EPA to address court concerns in CEED case

- In the wake of the decision of the D.C. Circuit Court's February decision on the Annex in CEED vs. EPA, WRAP sent a letter to Jeffrey Holmstead, EPA Assistant Administrator for Air Quality, expressing belief that the issues raised in the court decision can be remedied. The letter cited the fact that the Annex was developed in partnership by consensus by western states, tribes and federal agencies in partnership with industries and environmental groups. The letter went on to seek to work with EPA to develop air pollution control programs that make sense for the West, once the new BART rule is promulgated. The BART rule is due out on April 15 under a consent decree and settlement between EPA and Environmental Defense.

Western Business Roundtable petitions EPA to postpone BART rule

- The Western Business Roundtable (WBR) has filed a petition with EPA, requesting that EPA seek a change in the consent decree that requires EPA to promulgate a BART rule to address American Corn Growers, et al, vs. EPA. The consent decree was the result of settlement between EPA and Environmental Defense. In the petition, WBR asserts that the proposed rule repeats the same conditions that were struck down in Corn growers, and that a waste of time and money will result from additional actions seeking to reaffirm previous court rulings. The letter was clear in its expressed intent of further legal actions if EPA moves forward under the consent decree. (See item above.) ([Click Here](#) to view the petition)

The draft report on preliminary list of BART-eligible sources is out for general review and comment

- This report summarizes the first phase in an effort to identify BART-eligible sources in the WRAP region. The objectives of this effort are to:

- Develop and maintain a regional database of eligible and possibly-eligible sources, their emissions, and current controls;
- Promote consistency in how BART-eligible sources are being identified across the region; and
- Establish a common method and preliminary list of sources.

The EPA Regional Haze Rule requires states to identify major stationary sources of air pollution, which are eligible for BART whether or not they implement BART or an alternative program under Section 308 of the rule.

The significant results of the report include:

- Of the 1,569 sources reviewed in the WRAP region, 1,138 were determined to be not BART-eligible and 87 are believed to be BART-eligible for at least a portion of the source.
- For the remaining 344 sources, enough information was collected to rank them as either likely eligible, potentially eligible, or "do not know."
- Of the 431 sources were found to be eligible or possibly eligible, the 87 believed to be eligible comprise most of the emissions from the 431 sources.
- Specifically, they comprise 63 percent of the SO₂, 62 percent of NO_x emissions, 57 percent of the PM₁₀ emissions, and 34 percent of the VOC emissions.
- Of this same group of 431 sources, electric generating units (EGUs) comprise over 75 percent of the SO₂ and NO_x emissions, 60 percent of the PM₁₀ emissions, and a small fraction of the VOC emissions.

Comments are due by May 13. The full report can be seen at: www.wrapair.org

Final Phase I draft of the Attribution of Haze report - Resource Specialists has completed the final Phase I report describing the emissions source categories and geographic source regions presently contributing to visibility impairment at each mandatory federal and tribal Class I area in the WRAP region. The report accomplishes this by integrating results from ambient monitoring, emissions inventory, and air quality modeling analyses. Phase I is characterized as a "dry run" for the more definitive Phase II, and The data displayed in the Phase I report is preliminary. Development of the scope of work for Phase II is underway.

Guidance for Categorizing Fire - Last month's ClearView reported that the Fire Forum had adopted the final version of the guidance for categorizing fire. This report was a little premature, as there is a remaining issue to related to oversight of cultural burning operations by tribes. Work is ongoing to resolve the issue and to adopt the guidance.

Implementation Work Group and Planning Team reviews 2006 WRAP forum workplans - The Implementation Work Group and the WRAP Planning Team have reviewed the proposed workplans of the WRAP forums in preparation for submittal to the WRAP board for approval in May. The WRAP appears to be on course for concluding, by the third quarter, 2006 the essential technical work needed for states and tribes to write their regional haze plans. Funding for RPO's in the 2006 budget has been sharply reduced from previous years, but it is believed that there will be adequate funding through the year to finish the work already scheduled.